

devised upon us. In this investigation there is no difficulty; nothing has been left to speculation or inquiry; for, however widely gentlemen have differed upon the power and the justice of touching this property, they have yet united in a common testimony to its character. It has been frankly and unequivocally declared, from the very commencement of this debate, by the most decided enemies of abolition themselves, as well as by others, that this property is an evil; that it is a dangerous property.

These extracts will suffice. They are a few from a mass of material before me to the same purport. They show the opinions of leading men in Virginia in 1832, and they announce the prevailing opinion of that whole State on one point, at least—the general conviction that slavery is a social and political evil in the countries where it exists. I could refer, in corroboration of this opinion, to the high authority of Mr. JEFFERSON and other names very dear to the fame of Virginia, if it were necessary. Mr. JEFFERSON's opinions are well known, from 1777 down to the last moment of his life, as warmly and earnestly enlisted in the cause of the final extinction of slavery from the State. I need not quote them. But it is worth while to remind the present generation that, in the first year alone mentioned, 1777, a committee, consisting of JEFFERSON, MASON, LEE, WYTHE, and PENNINGTON, submitted to the General Assembly of Virginia a plan for the abolition of slavery. They all regarded it as a great evil. The history of that illustrious Commonwealth does not afford, with one exception, five names more worthy to be trusted than these, in whatever belonged to the honor or the happiness of the State. With such facts before us, I may ask, how can any rational man allow his thoughts to dwell for a moment upon that most revolting and disgusting of all imaginable calamities, the dissolution of this Union, as a retribution due the crime of thinking in the same current of thought with all Virginia, and especially with these great lights of freedom and republican virtue?

Shall one sincere and thoughtful citizen of the United States now be put under the ban of public censure for thinking slavery an evil? Shall this Union be destroyed because many sincere men think it an evil? In the worst aspect of it, is not this the whole head and front of the offence upon which all this fury of passionate denunciation has arisen? Whether it be expedient or not to forbid the existence of slavery in the new Territories, is a question which public opinion very generally refers to that previous inquiry raised in the Virginia Assembly—that is to say: Is Slavery an Evil? For upon that point depends, in the simple judgment of well meaning men, the next proposition: Is it well to establish this evil in a new Territory? Why not allow men to hold their opinions on this subject in peace, without connecting it, in any form, with the fate of the Union? What excuse could VIRGINIA give to the world, if now, after all that has passed within her own history, she should unite in this fierce assault upon the Confederacy, to punish and disable those who have been instructed in their opinions of slavery by her teaching, and who have only reiterated the thoughts of her own sages and philosophers, and, after six, of her whole people? Virginia has given six Presidents to the Union. She is six times the more bound to preserve it. She has taught the world, both by her practice and her philosophy, how to estimate the value of slavery. Let her not array herself in anger against those who have deferred to her wisdom and applauded her advice!

From all these considerations which I have thrown before the reader, I gather one great moral, as a predominating influence which should pervade the whole discussion of the topic of the day—the duty of moderation, and the suppression of all rash resolve. I think that mutual abandonment of the controversy—I mean abandonment of it as a theme of political agitation—and throwing it back into the mass of subjects upon which men may differ as they please, without denunciation on one side, without proscription on the other, without, in fact, attaching to the difference any penalty whatever; I think it obvious that such treatment of it will produce a result satisfactory to all. The ship will right herself if the crew will but trust her to the billows. Let Northern Legislatures cease to instruct, or, in the guise of instruction, to foment passion and stir up resentment; let the South cease to threaten; let politicians abandon their Conventions, and fiery orators slake their ardor in salutary silence; strike out *Nulification* and *Secession* from the parliamentary vocabulary; and let over-heated citizens, both North and South, seek some profitable private calling, and diligently pursue it, supplanting politics with notions of thrift, and giving more heed to works that will strengthen the Union than to fancies of destroying it, and it will require no prophet to foretell that in a few months all parties will find reason to rejoice in the result.

The storm, we may hope, is now at its height. There are already symptoms of a breaking away in the elements. The *People*, a distinct body from the politicians, are turning the subject over in their minds. The friends of the Union—friends in all extremes—are about to fall into spontaneous array, and will come forth if this matter be not soon settled. They will come presently in a great groundswell, which will lift every agitating, declamatory politician off his feet, and land him, perhaps, amongst the wreck and offal of the beach. There are signs of this.

**UNFORTUNATE CASUALTY.**—In Mobile bay, on the 23d ultimo, the steamer *Inda*, accidentally upset and sunk a yawboat containing seven men, three of whom were unfortunately drowned. The yawl belonged to the French ship *Myosotis*. Two of the men belonged to the French ship, the third to the city of Mobile.

**THE SOURCE OF THE JORDAN.**—The river takes its rise from several very large fountains, which gush up in the midst of a tangled mass of brambles, hollyhocks, and succulents. It has nothing of the tiny beginning of other rivers, but at once starts into life a stout dashing stream. We bowed down, and with pure religion drank of the sacred water at its very source.—*Scenes in the East.*

**SINGULAR COLLECTION.**—An old lady, more than eighty years of age, died recently at St. Omers, in France. She had the singular mania of preserving all the clothes, jewels, head-dresses, shoes and stockings, ornaments, girdles, &c., that had ever owned or worn from her infancy to the present time. This lady had never destroyed, or sold, or given away any thing which had served her for dress or ornament. When a fashion had passed away or an article was out of use in her opinion, she put it away in wardrobes made for the purpose. These wardrobes are now very numerous, and overflowing. It may be imagined that a collection of dresses, puff, bonnets and caps would be found in this museum of fashion, preserved by a lady who dates from the reign of Louis XV., who began with hoops, powder and high-heeled shoes, and who, after having gone through the epochs of the Revolution, the Consulate and the Empire, when the costume of ladies was so singular, found herself again in a Republic, after three monarchical reigns. Madame P. wanted the ladies and gentlemen, her heirs, who are all relatives, what they would find in her closets at her death; she abandoned to them all this singular frippery, only begging them not to laugh too much when they came to appraise this part of her inheritance.

**DR. FRANKLIN'S**, endeavoring to kill a turkey by an electric shock, received the whole battery himself, when he good-naturedly observed that, instead of killing a turkey, he had nearly put an end to a goose.

**HENRY M. NOURSE**, Attorney at Law and Agent for Claims, Office on Pennsylvania avenue, 7 doors east of National Hotel.

**Hon. Ellen Whitteley**, First Comptroller of Treasury, Hon. Allen A. Hall, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Hon. Richard M. Johnson, Kentucky, Hon. R. H. Gillet, Feb 13—*evening*

**WILLIAM**, Attorney at Law, Office on Pennsylvania avenue, 7 doors east of National Hotel, Feb 13—*evening*

## WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1850.

### THE TOPIC OF THE DAY.

We have not, in the few articles which we have thrown out upon this subject, by any means exhausted it. We have much behind that we may or may not have occasion to say, as it may or may not become necessary to continue a discussion, the prospect of the prolongation of which has no charms for us.

For to-day, we release our readers from a continuation of our own speculations on the subject, to enable us to lay before them the article in the preceding columns, than which few, if any, productions of greater ability have ever before adorned our pages. Our readers will not, we hope, take our opinion upon trust, but judge of its merits by a searching perusal of it.

### THE SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court of the United States yesterday terminated its long and arduous Session, to meet again in this city on the first Monday in next month, (April.)

WASHINGTON'S temper [says the Journal of Commerce] was tried as severely as any man's, yet who can cite the instance of his losing it? FRANKLIN is another example; and we took up our pen, in this article, for the purpose simply of citing that venerable sage and patriot as a model specially worthy of the attention of our National Legislators at the present time. Picture him at the age of 82 years sitting in that august assembly which formed the Constitution. The interests to be adjusted by that body were even more perplexed and delicate than those which are now before us. Excitement rose to a great height, and some of the speeches were nearly as denunciatory as some we have had of late. In the midst of this excitement the great philosopher, as little affected by it as he was by the lightning which his kite sent down from the clouds, rose to offer a series of conciliatory propositions, which he prefaced with the following pacific observations touching the temper of the House:

"It has given me great pleasure to observe that, till this point, the proportion of representation, came before us, our debates were carried on with great coolness and temper. If any thing of a contrary kind has on this occasion appeared, I hope it will not be repeated; for we are sent hither to consult, not to contend, with each other; and declarations of a fixed opinion, and of determined resolutions never to change it, neither enlighten nor convince us. Positiveness and warmth on one side naturally beget their like on the other, and tend to create and augment discord and division in a great concern, wherein harmony and union are extremely necessary to give weight to our councils, and render them effectual in promoting and securing the common good."

### ALL HAIL, LOUISIANA!

An act passed the Senate of Louisiana on the 19th ultimo (and will doubtless become a law) the title of which is as follows:

"An act to provide a block of stone for the Washington Monument, bearing the following inscription: 'The State of Louisiana—ever loyal to the Constitution and the Union.'"

### NORTH CAROLINA.

The following resolutions, introduced by ex-Gov. MOREHEAD, at a meeting in Guilford county, North Carolina, will command attention abroad as well as at home. The Raleigh Register says that they embody the sentiments of a large majority of the People of North Carolina:

*Resolved*, That the interests of every portion of the Union, as guaranteed by the Constitution, ought to be respected and must be maintained.

*Resolved*, That the Union of these United States is indispensable to the happiness and welfare of the American People, and to the security of political liberty to the world, and it must be maintained.

**CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN LOUISIANA.**—It appears by the subjoined paragraph, copied from the New Orleans Bulletin, that the Constitution of the State of Louisiana is to be again submitted to the revision of a Convention:

"THE LEGISLATURE.—The bill for calling a Convention of the People to amend the present Constitution has finally passed. The measure is very necessary and judicious, for the present inefficiency and incomplete thing has already proved its total inadequacy, after an experience of less than five years. It was 'past mending,' and now it is past 'praying for,' for in less than twelve months it will be among 'the things that were.'"

### TO POSTMASTERS.

For the information of Postmasters who may not have previously seen it, we republish the following notice.

By the direction of the Postmaster General, the supplementary sheets containing the Post Office advertisement of mail routes are sent free of postage charge.

S. R. HOBBS, First Asst P. M. Gen.

**MORIS ST. LOUIS.**—The Rev. Mr. LEAHY, ex-monk of La Trappe, delivered a series of lectures in St. Louis highly ably of Roman Catholicism, the result of which was that on the 16th ult. a serious riot ensued, from which the lecturer was forced to take flight, narrowly escaping with his life.

**SIR FRANCIS JEFFREY**, a notice of whose life we published yesterday, and whose death the whole literary world united in deploring, married, as his second wife, a daughter of the late CHARLES WILKES, of the Bank of New York. He was consequently the brother-in-law of D. C. COLTON, Esq., of this city. Lady JEFFREY survives, and her only child is now the wife of Professor EMPSON, Editor of the Edinburgh Review.—*New York paper.*

The very violent west wind which ushered in the month of March yesterday morning unroofed that portion of Winder's great building, at the corner of 17th and F streets, occupied by various bureaux of the Government.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—The Boonshoro' Old Fellow states that on Saturday last, at Antietam Iron Works, near Sharpsburg, Mr. Earlander, greaser of the rolling mill, was caught in the fly-wheel and forced through a very narrow space, dreadfully crushing him and causing instant death.

**LOCOMOTIVE POWER.**—German papers state that Mr. Gunther, the head of the locomotive factory at Neustadt, near Vienna, has solved the problem relative to the ascent of trains on inclined planes, and built an engine which will draw, with ease, up an incline of 40° to 50°, a train of the weight of 2,500 tons.—*Mining Journal.*

**DIAMOND DUST.**—The friendships of the world are often confederacies in vice or leagues of pleasure. Life is the hyphen between matter and spirit. A breaking away is the only thing in nature which is most beautiful in the moment of its dissolution. The fetters of rhyme are no more than a bracelet to the true poet. As well pass a kaleidoscope from hand to hand, and expect no trembling touch will alter its aspect, as to think to hear a story from mouth to mouth literally and accurately repeated. When hearts are filled with holy affections, and home is happy, then do the young dwell in a charmed circle, which only the naturally depraved would seek to quit, and across which boundary temptations to error shine out but feebly.—*Eliza Cook's Journal.*

## THE "UNION" NEWSPAPER.

We offer our compassion—'tis all we have to spare—to the Editors of the Union upon the predicament in which they are placed concerning the vexed topic of the day. Unlike Hamlet, in the play, "when the wind's southerly" they do not "know a hawk from a handsaw." The *Union* seems, in fact, at times almost to mistake its own identity, as well it might, did it judge by the sound of its own voice, so different is it on one day from what it was the day preceding, or will be the next day. As to the matter of the discourses of "the Union" upon what it admits to be the distracting topic of the day, the only thing in which we discover consistency or constancy is its unvarying abuse of the National Intelligencer, often on grounds in direct opposition to each other. An example of this we have in the yesterday's number of that paper, which we will show up, as furnishing the occasion of our *compassionating* the uncomfortable position in which that press frequently finds itself, now-a-days, on the horns of the dilemma to which we allude.

In a leading article in "the Union" of Sunday last, its readers were informed that "the National Intelligencer continues to accumulate its extracts from the Southern press, (and, with one exception, all Whigs.) They are only calculated to deceive the public, by concealing the danger which hangs over our country." Very well. Our answer to that accusation is very simple. We conceal from the Public no danger that we know of or have reason to believe in. The *Union's* answer to it is contained in its number of yesterday, in which we are charged with *exaggerating* that which only three days before it had charged us with *concealing*. Witness the following paragraph from yesterday's "Union":

"Hence the quotations made by the National Intelligencer from Southern papers, in order to make the people of the North believe that Southern men desire a dissolution of the Union," &c. "For despicable party ends, and with hypocritical professions of love for the Union on their lips, they are willing—yes, they are striving anxiously—to sever all the kindly bonds and destroy all the fraternal sympathies which unite the States to each other, so that they may drive the nation to the verge of civil war," &c. "We solemnly charge these things upon the Administration, and upon the corrupt press which panders to its traitorous designs against the peace of the Confederacy," &c.

The two articles which we have quoted, every reader will see, directly refute each other, the "solemnity" of the charges only heightening their respective absurdity. If any thing more false and malignant than both of them were ever written or printed, it has escaped our observation.

The "Union" expresses great wonderment, with a considerable amount of indignation, at our not noticing a mere and purely party demonstration by the Democrats of Philadelphia, on the 22d instant. We did not, because it did not appear to be of consequence enough to justify the transplanting its proceedings to our columns. They spoke of the value of the Union (not the newspaper) it is true, and we dare say sincerely, as far as they went; but in what terms? Was it in the spirit of freemen, assembling within a hundred or two yards of the Hall of Independence, and of the hall in which, GEORGE WASHINGTON presiding, the Union itself was formed by him and his great compeers? Or in the spirit of mere party-men, caring little for any thing but party ends and objects, and making mention of the Union in such a way as to show how feeble their attachment to it in comparison with the zeal of their worship of party idols? Let the reader judge for himself. The proceedings of that meeting are before us. There is a string of resolutions, seventeen in number, all in a high party tone; in no one of which, though the 22d instant was the day on which the meeting was held, was the name or memory of WASHINGTON mentioned; and when the "Union" came to be spoken of in the sixteenth of the seventeen resolutions, it was in such a manner as to leave the inevitable impression on the mind of the reader that these gentlemen entertain the belief that Gen. JACKSON, and not Gen. WASHINGTON, was the Father of his Country and the Founder of the Union!

Here is the resolution; we leave it to speak for itself:

*Resolved*, That we regard the Union of the States as a blessing of inestimable value, among the richest bestowed by God upon man, and, in the language of the immortal JACKSON, declare "that it must and shall be preserved."

We understand, unofficially, that M. BOIS LE COMTE, appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the French Republic, has been unexpectedly detained in Paris in consequence of the severe and dangerous illness of his father, who is not expected to live, and that, until his arrival, M. BOURBOULEN, former Secretary of Legation, has been appointed Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim* to represent the French Government at Washington. M. BOURBOULEN arrived at Boston in the last steamer, and will probably in a few days present his letters of credence to the Secretary of State.

**THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.**—Stock to the amount of \$392,000 has been subscribed in St. Louis to the Pacific Railroad, and the Company will be organized and the route surveyed immediately. This road will be commenced at St. Louis and extended to the western limits of the State, to be ready to form the eastern trunk of the line to the Pacific Ocean.

**CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF OHIO.**—The Legislature of Ohio has finally agreed on a day for choosing Delegates to the Constitutional Convention. It is the first Monday in April, and the Convention is to assemble on the first Monday in May. We presume the new constitution will be submitted for ratification by the people at the regular State election on the second Tuesday in October.

### FROM MEXICO.

A Telegraph despatch, dated at Mobile on the 27th ultimo, contains the following:

The steamer *Thames* arrived here on the 26th with \$45,000 in specie on board. She took on board at Vera Cruz and Tampico two millions of dollars.

All was quiet in Mexico at the latest dates. Mr. LUTHER, our new Minister to the Republic of Mexico, reached the Capital on the 23d, and had an immediate audience with the President, who, in his speech, expressed the most amicable feelings towards the United States.

The cholera had appeared in several parts of Mexico. The city of Vera Cruz was healthy. A daily line of stages is now established between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico.

By the latest accounts from Santa Fe, being to the 3d of January, it would appear that the people of that place are nearly equally divided on the question of a civil government—one party advocating the formation of a State Government and the other contending for a Territorial Government.

In an address to the People, published in the "New Mexican" newspaper, the State party urge that the claims of Texas dictate an immediate State organization; that Texas is already surveying and granting lands on the Rio del Norte, as high up as Donna Anna, and that she has seized possession of the Salt Lakes south. They also add, that the late Administration instructed the authorities of New Mexico to aid rather than oppose the extension of the jurisdiction of Texas over the territory to the Rio del Norte, and that no counter instructions had been received from the present Administration.

"With these facts staring you in the face, says the address, are you willing longer to remain inactive, and all wait quietly and passively swallowed up by California or the State of Decret, and those east of the Rio del Norte forced into an unnatural and repugnant association with Texas, where you would necessarily be taxed to an amount greater than would be sufficient to support a State Government of your own, in order to pay the millions which Texas now owes? If this is what you desire, do nothing, and be advised by the secret friends which Texas possibly may have in this Territory. It is especially incumbent upon you, fellow-citizens, to ascertain the truth in relation to the facts here submitted. We warn you that our nonentity is at hand, unless you bestir yourself betimes."

The Territorial party also published an address, in which they set forth the following among their objections to the course recommended by their opponents:

"The Constitution of the United States expressly declares that 'new States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union, but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State, nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned, as well as of the Congress.' From which it must be apparent to all, were Texas alone concerned, that at this time the admission of New Mexico as a State could not be effected. Texas claims a portion of the ancient territory of New Mexico, and New Mexico resists the claim. Texas limits have been established by treaty, and in her treaty or compact with the United States, reserves to itself the sole power of deciding the bounds of Texas with other Powers; her interior or domestic limits cannot, therefore, be settled by Congress without the sanction of the Legislature of Texas; and it follows that New Mexico can have no bounds joining Texas until a compromise of claims is acquiesced in and affirmed by the Texas Legislature, and the Congress of the United States on the part of New Mexico. There is, however, at this time, another insurmountable obstacle to the admission of New Mexico as a State Government—our treaty stipulations with Mexico. The line of demarcation is not yet definitely fixed between Mexico and the United States, and cannot be fixed until after the final action of the Commissioners appointed under the treaty to regulate that question."

"The only results that can be effected by agitating the question of a State Government will be, if hearkened to by the people, a tendency to postpone the action of Congress on the subject of the Territorial Government we have asked for, and perhaps leave us where we are for an indefinite period. If, on the contrary, the people are true to themselves and real interests, as expressed in Convention, and treat the efforts of the faction with the coldness merited by all who are influenced more by the hope of personal aggrandizement than by the good of the community, Congress must admit the steadiness of their views and principles, and its favorable action will consequently be more speedily elicited."

### MOVEMENTS ON THE RIO GRANDE.

The American Flag, of the 6th ultimo, brings us accounts of an interesting and highly important movement of the citizens of the Rio Grande counties of Texas, with a view to the establishment of an independent Territorial Government. At least two hundred citizens, with their names appended, publish an address, in which they say:

"The time has at length arrived when the people of this valley must act with promptitude and decision. We have too long conformed to the justice of the people of Texas—too long tamely submitted to her unauthorized political jurisdiction. Our confidence in Texas has been misplaced, and it behooves us to appeal to the Federal Government for a Territorial Government. We are entitled to know at the door of Congress for that protection which Texas denies us. The authorities of Texas seek to annul the titles to real estate between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. It is a fatal blow to our future prosperity, and will involve the country in litigation ruinous and endless. This scheme of flagrant injustice proves that we have nothing in future to expect from the State of Texas but vindictive and libelous legislation."

On the 2d ultimo a mass meeting of the citizens was held, at which they adopted, amongst other resolutions, the following:

"Whereas we believe that all that portion of country lying east of the Rio Grande and south of the line of New Mexico, distinct from the former province of Texas, of right belongs to the Government of the United States, and that the State of Texas has extended her jurisdiction over it without our consent, and that the late measures taken by her will retard her growth and prosperity, by involving the property-holders in endless and ruinous litigation, and thereby prevent the development of its resources; and whereas we are, in geographical position, as well as in interest, separate and distinct from Texas, and believing that a Territorial organization will greatly promote the interest and welfare of the people of this territory: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the said territory was acquired by the arms of the United States, and is the common property of the Union.

*Resolved*, That we recommend a Convention, composed of delegates from the different sections of said territory, to devise a Provisional Government, with suspended functions, until our claims can be urged before Congress by a delegate chosen by the people.

Following these resolutions is an appeal addressed to all "the citizens of the Valley and Territory of the Rio Grande," setting forth their grievances in forcible terms.

A mass meeting of persons opposed to a separate Government was subsequently called, and resolutions passed setting forth their sentiments on the subject, from which we select the following:

*Resolved*, That we fully recognize and assert the right of the State of Texas to the sovereignty and jurisdiction over the territory between the Nueces river and the Rio Grande, and hold ourselves bound to the citizens of the State to sustain the right against internal opponents or external enemies.

*Resolved*, That we do not believe the political jurisdiction which the State of Texas has exercised over the territory east of the Rio Grande as either usurped or unauthorized by the constitution and laws of the State or of the United States.

*Resolved*, That we have each confidence in the intelligence and integrity of the Legislature and Executive authorities of the State, as to believe that no tribunal to investigate and quiet land titles in the valley of the Rio Grande will be created which will be otherwise than independent and impartial in its proceedings, and we regard it neither politic nor just to denounce such tribunals in advance.

Among the deaths recorded in the English papers is that of Lord Dalhousie, long eminent as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Scotland, but more famous for his editorship of the Edinburgh Review. He died on the 26th of January, having been born in October, 1773. He was editor of the Edinburgh Review more than a quarter of a century, during which the Review attained its highest reputation.

The Delaware bank, for the National Monument, was started to Washington on Tuesday, in charge of Major John Jones and Mr. Smith, from whose quarries the block was taken. The ceremony of sealing up the leaden boxes, &c. deposited in the stone, was performed on the 23d of February in the presence of the citizens in the City Hall at Wilmington.

The Jacksonville (Florida) News states that the plantation of Captain SALTAN, in that city, has produced during the past season 221 hogsheads of sugar, averaging 1,000 pounds each, from 195 acres of cane. He has lost at least 50 hogsheads by imperfect grading—having wrought nearly his entire crop with two broken rollers which would not admit of sufficient pressure to extract the juice by 20 per cent. The yield of molasses is 15,000 gallons.

A Convention of Ministers recently assembled at Syracuse formally denounced the honorary degree of D.D. as a mark of distinction, and resolved that the title belongs to all teachers of Christianity. They recommended, therefore, that all ministers should be called D.D.'s.

## THE PRESIDENT AT FREDERICKSBURG.

### Correspondence of the National Intelligencer.

STEAMBOAT BALTIMORE, POTOMAC RIVER, SATURDAY EVENING, FEB. 23, 1850.

The proceedings in honor of the President at Fredericksburg were concluded by a variety of toasts and speeches, following the luxurious dinner provided for the occasion. Of these I give and notice the principal portion, including those more particularly significant of feeling on the great questions occupying the national mind, and complimentary to distinguished public men, so far as time and limits will allow:

### REGULAR TOASTS.

*The Union of the States:* At home our shield and defence; abroad our strength and glory. "Whom God hath joined together let not man put asunder."

*The North:* "Very pleasant hast thou been to me, my brother Jonathan!" "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, nor between thy people and my people, for we are brethren." "Even in death" let us not be divided.

*The Southern Question:* We are all Whigs; we are all Democrats. *Laissez nous faire.*

*Our Honored Guest:* Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey, and Buena Vista are records of his military fame. The pen of the statesman will preserve the Union which the sword of the warrior has rendered illustrious.

[After the applause with which this sentiment was received had subsided, the PRESIDENT briefly responded to it, remarking that the battles to which allusion had been made were won by the courage and prowess of the soldiers whom he had been enabled to lead to victory in them; that we were a nation of soldiers; that those whom he had the honor to command in those battles were from almost every State from Maine to Texas; that in all the battles, upon both lines of invasion in Mexico, sons of Virginia had been amongst the most distinguished; and that, as President, he would stand by the Constitution and Union as long as they were worth preserving, which he trusted they would be found to be for a long time to come.]

*The Federal Constitution:* The ligature that binds together our glorious Confederacy. Palsied be the hand that would sever its slightest thread!

*The Memory of Washington.* (Drank standing and in silence.)

*The Battle of Buena Vista:* The world stood amazed at its glorious result. May this, its anniversary, ever be a gala day in our national calendar!

*General Winfield Scott:* The hero of Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, and Chapultepec. His triumphant march to the gates of Mexico will ever be reckoned as one of the most brilliant achievements of American warfare.

*Orange county, Virginia:* The birth-place of TAYLOR. Like the Roman matron, when asked for her brightest jewel, she points to her illustrious son.

*Virginia:* The North and the South are alike bound to her by filial ties. Let none of her children forsake her!

*The Governor of Virginia, JOHN B. FLOYD:* Sprung from a stock that never fails to yield the State a large dividend for her investment, in the shape of a good Governor.

### The Ladies:

"Oh, woman, dear woman, whose form and whose soul are the light and the life of each spell we pursue: Whether sunned in the tropics or chilled at the pole, if woman be there, there is happiness too."

The following were amongst the volunteer toasts:

By General TAYLOR: *The Memory of the late President MADISON*, who had so conspicuous a share in framing our glorious Constitution and Union, and putting them in operation.

By Hon. R. B. SMITH, Mayor of Fredericksburg: "The Union, it must be preserved," not by the bayonet, but rather by the weapons of kindness, conciliation, and compromise, with which our fathers established it.

By Mr. MARIE, one of the Fredericksburg committee, (pre-faced by a recital of Jefferson's maxim, "error may always be safely tolerated as long as truth be left free to combat it," and remarks to the effect that, if our Union was in any danger, it was from errors arising from the ignorance of each other of the people of its different sections.) *Standing Armies:* May we have one from the South to invade and conquer the North, and one from the North to reciprocate the favor by invading and conquering the South—in the warm spirit of reciprocal hospitalities, courtesies, and kindness.

By ROBERT G. SCOTT, Esq., of Richmond: *Our Country*, our whole country, and its every part, with its Constitution as our fathers made it, and with no Wilmot proviso fastened upon it.

By Hon. LEWIS E. HARVEY, of the House of Delegates: "The Union of the South" "for the sake of the Union."

By Hon. Wm. KINNEY, of the State Senate, and chairman of the Committee of Reception: General TAYLOR: He who "surrenders" to a foreign enemy will never surrender to any other.

Governor FLOYD acknowledged the compliment to himself, in the regular toasts, in a highly eloquent speech, in the course of which he remarked substantially as follows:

"Virginia has done too much for our Union, too much for the American people and the human race, to be suspected of disloyalty to the Union now. I say this, standing here on this spot, high where WASHINGTON was born, where he passed his youth, and whence he went forth with MERCEY to battle for his country. Can the land of Washington and Mercer, can the land of Henry, whose inspired eloquence electrified and aroused his country to the great contest for liberty, and pealed across the Atlantic and shook the throne of British tyranny—can the State which did so much to redeem the country and create the Union, now prove disloyal, to the destruction of the work of her own hands?"

Look at what Virginia has done for our country and Union. She gave empires in her bequest of her magnificent domains of the Northwest. She gave her treasure to the utmost of her ability for the war for independence. She gave her wise men to the council, and hosts of her heroic sons to strife and to death. She gave her WASHINGTON. All these she gave that the country might be secured by a bond of Union which despotism could never sever. She is still true to that Union. It is a heresy which wrongs her, the belief that prevails in some sections that she is degenerate and disloyal to it. As a consequence of this heresy, we have in some quarters calls for power to hold it in readiness to repress her disloyalty."

"Imagine an array of a sisterhood of thirty beautiful matrons; of the eldest leaning with one hand upon the shoulder of one of her eminent sons, the Hero of Buena Vista—the Chief Magistrate, wielding the supreme power of the Republic; with the other upon the shoulder of another illustrious son, the Hero of Cerro Gordo, and Commander of the Army of the Republic. She is looking to still another eminent son, to him whose eloquence has rung amidst the temples of Greece and the gates of the Andes, and to one gifted of Heaven to advocate her cause. And what shall be said of the fanaticism of that sister or those sisters who, for her remembrance against what she may deem wrongs, shall call for her CLAY to assail her with the thunder-shafts of his eloquence, and her TAYLOR and her SCOTT to turn their bayonets upon her bosom?"

Let us hope that juster sentiments and kinder counsel may prevail. I was happy to hear our illustrious guest and friend say that he "would stand by the Constitution and Union as long as they were worth preserving;" and what he says he will surely do. That will be standing by them long enough. It will be standing by them as long as Wisconsin is equal, as long as Delaware is equal, and only equal in the C. N. side, as long as Virginia. And that equality is all that Virginia desires.

Commodore WARRINGTON, and Col. EATON, one of Gen. TAYLOR's distinguished aids at Buena Vista, appropriately acknowledged sentiments complimentary to themselves, and in honor to the branches of service to which they respectively belonged. And Hon. E. D. BAKER, member of Congress from Illinois, responded to a toast and call by the company in a speech of some length, chiefly in advocacy of the maintenance of the Union, and a spirit of brotherhood amongst the citizens of its different sections, and replete with argument, wit, and fine flights of eloquence.

The sentiments and remarks in favor of the Union and in rebuke of the spirit of sectional discord, were, as every where else, received throughout with the liveliest manifestations of sympathy by the assemblage.

The President and his suite were escorted to the depot, and accompanied thence by the committees, military and other gentlemen of Fredericksburg, and delegations of the committees from Richmond, to the point of embarkation at Aquia Creek, where an interchange of kindly farewell greetings concluded the ceremonies of the excursion.

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